

PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 06028.0029-00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), Applicants bring to the attention of the Examiner the documents listed on the attached Form PTO 1449. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed concurrently with the above-referenced application.

Copies of the listed documents are attached. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the listed documents and indicate that they were considered by making appropriate notations on the attached 1449 form.

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With respect to the non-English language documents, Applicants submit the following remarks:

1. EP 1 179 336 - This document is believed to be related to U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0046431 A1, submitted herewith.
2. FR 2 820 032 - An abstract of the disclosure of this document can be found in the English language Derwent Abstract submitted herewith.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and Applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, Applicants reserve the right to present to the U.S. Patent Office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

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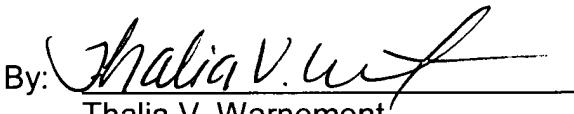
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Attorney Docket No. 06028.0029-00
Application No. Unassigned

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
(Use several sheets if necessary)

Atty. Docket No.	06028.0029-00000	Application No.	Unassigned
Applicant	François COTTARD et al.		
Filing Date	October 21, 2003	Group:	Unassigned

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial*		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date If Appropriate
1		2002/0046431 A1	Apr. 25, 2002	Laurent et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation Yes or No
2		EP 1 179 336	Feb. 13, 2002	Europe			No
3		FR 2 820 032	Aug. 2, 2002	France			Abstract

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

4	English language Derwent Abstract of FR 2 820 032, Aug. 2, 2002.

Examiner	Date Considered
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*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.